

All children need love and support if they are to grow and learn to their fullest potential. This basic truth is the driving force behind all that families do for their children. In some cases, families need extra assistance and First Steps is here to help. First Steps is designed to improve your family's capacity to enhance your child's development and to increase your child's participation in family and community life.

Since 1986, First Steps has been providing coordinated early intervention services through a family-centered system. First Steps is family-centered because we understand that Missouri families know their needs best and have the greatest influence on their child's development. First Steps uses knowledgeable professionals who work as consultants or coaches teaching families the skills they need to help their children succeed.

First Steps strives to incorporate early intervention services into the regular routines of families and into children's natural environments. First Steps makes this effort because we believe that children grow and develop best when participating in learning opportunities that occur naturally, as a part of their family's everyday activities.

We know that this can be a stressful time for families and that the road ahead may seem long, difficult, and lonely. But you do not have to walk this road alone. On behalf of the hundreds of members of Missouri's First Steps system we say welcome to First Steps... and let's get going.